AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Monoclonal antibodies of the invention can be obtained against various forms of the receptor, including the complete receptor, a particular domain or a peptide characteristic of the ~~aminoacid~~ amino acid sequence of the receptor represented in ~~figure 3~~ Figures 3A and 3B (SEQ ID NO: 4).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Monoclonal antibodies of the invention can for example be prepared against the soluble form of the receptor. A hydrosoluble polypeptide corresponding to the soluble form of the ~~INF-R~~ IFN-R is described ~~on~~ in ~~figure 2 of SEQ ID NO:~~ 2 Figures 2A and 2B (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Other monoclonal antibodies according to the invention can also be prepared against a peptide comprised in the extracellular domain of the receptor as described ~~on figure 2 SEQ ID NO:~~ 2 in Figures 2A and 2B (SEQ ID NO: 2). An advantageous peptide corresponds for instance to the ~~aminoacid~~ amino acid sequence comprised between ~~aminoacid~~ amino acid 1 and ~~aminoacid~~ amino acid 229. According to another embodiment of the invention, the antibodies can be prepared against a polypeptide modified by substitution of one or more amino acids, provided that antibodies directed against the ~~non modified~~ non-modified extracellular domain of the ~~IFN-R,~~ IFN-R recognize the modified polypeptide or peptide.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

One particular antibody satisfying the requirements of the invention, is such as it directed against an epitope on the amino-acid sequence comprised between ~~amino-acid~~ amino

acid 27 and ~~amino acid~~ amino acid 427 of the extracellular domain of the human IFN-R as represented ~~on~~ in ~~figure 2 SEQ ID NO: 2~~ Figures 2A and 2B (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Please amend the paragraph beginning with the phrase "Figure 1" on page 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~Figure 1~~Figures 1A and 1B: binding of ^{125}I-labelled monoclonal antibodies 34F10 and 64G12 to:

- A : Daudi cells
- B : Ly28 cells

Briefly, 10^6 cells were incubated for 2 hours at 4°C in presence of different amounts of the labelled antibodies diluted in RPMI medium containing 10% fetal calf serum (FCS). The cells were then washed 4 times in RPMI-1% FCS and counted for bound radioactivity. Nonspecific binding was measured by incubation with a 100 fold excess of cold antibodies and substracted from total counts.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A fragment of the DNA containing the sequence coding for the extracellular domain (amino acids 27-427) of the human IFN-R~~INF-R (figure 2 SEQ ID NO: 2~~(Figures 2A and 2B) (SED ID NO: 2), in which an extra-sequence coding for 5 histidyl residues was introduced just before the termination codon, was cloned in the expression vectors pKK233-2. This fragment was produced by the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and the resulting plasmids were sequenced to confirm both in-frame insertion with the ~~Shine-Dalgarno~~ Shine-Delgarno sequence and the appropriate sequence coding for the receptor.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22, following Table 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The difference in the mAb concentration at which 50% inhibition of binding of IFN is obtained has been investigated by direct binding of ^{125}I-labelled mABs 64G12 and 34F10 to the same cell lines and Scatchard plot analysis of the results. In the concentration range of 0.1 to 1.5 ug/ml, a high affinity binding of the mAB 34F10 ($\simeq$10nM) was seen on all cell

lines whereas a high affinity binding of mAB 64G12 was only detected on Daudi and K562 cells (~~Figure 1~~Figures 1A and 1B).